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paper, at least six weeks before the meeting, to the Secretary, in order that they may be referred to the Committee on Arrangements, with a view of preparing a programme. The committee consists of D. G. Brinton, M. D., chairman ; Prof. W. F. Allen, Prof. T. F. Crane, Prof. Horatio Hale, and Prof. Otis T. Mason.

MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN FOLK-LORE SOCIETY IN THE VICINITY OF BOSTON.—A local meeting of members of the Society, for the purpose of hearing reports and exchanging opinions, was held in the Chapel of Boston University, on May 4. The lateness of the date does not permit more than a brief mention of what proved to be a most successful and enjoyable occasion. Col. T. W. Higginson, who occupied the chair, spoke of the objects of the Society, as part of the modern tendency to humanize history, and make the record of the past vivid and intelligible. The Secretary set forth the ends sought to be attained by the "Journal of American Folk-Lore," and urged the necessity of activity in the collection of the traditions of the Indian tribes, in order that posterity might not be left to deal with insoluble problems. Prof. J. W. Bergen showed the great mass of ungathered folk-lore in the United States, where not hundreds but thousands of items might be gathered in every country village. The same superstitions were found to exist in many parts of the world, and the questions to which these correspondences gave rise could only be answered by a complete collection. Dr. Harris, of Concord, Mass., spoke of the interest attaching to the rhymes which children use for "counting-out." Remarks were made by Messrs. H. E. Scudder, O. B. Frothingham, P. S. Moxom, of Boston, and others. Mr. Sylvester Baxter spoke of the ethnological value of folk-lore, as shown by the experience of Mr. Cushing in connection with the Hemenway exploring expedition. There being a general consent as to the interest of the conversation, it was proposed to hold monthly meetings during the winter ; and a committee was appointed to carry into effect the suggestion.

AMERICAN DIALECT SOCIETY.—A meeting was held at Cambridge, Mass., in Sever Hall, Harvard University, on March 13th, to consider the formation of a society for the study of English dialects in America. A society for this purpose was formed, with the following officers : President, Prof. F. J. Child (Harvard University) ; Vice-president, Prof. J. M. Hart (University of Cincinnati) ; Secretary, Prof. Edward S. Sheldon (Harvard University) ; Editing Committee, as colleagues of the Secretary, Prof. G. L. Kittredge (Harvard University), and Prof. Sylvester Primer (College of Charleston) ; Executive Committee, together with the officers named, Profs. F. D. Allen (Harvard University), B. I. Wheeler (Cornell University), and C. F. Smith (Vanderbilt University).

According to the constitution adopted, the name of the society is to be The American Dialect Society, and its object is defined as "the investigation of the spoken English of the United States and Canada, and incidentally of other non-aboriginal dialects spoken in the same countries." The executive committee are empowered to appoint local secretaries, who